

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AEC-11

ACDA-19 OMB-01 DRC-01 /133 W

----- 033134

R 050944Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6712

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CNO

CINCLANTFLT

COMFAIRMED

NAVSHIPSYSYSCOM CODE 08

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMSUBLANT

USCINCEUR

COMSUBGRU EIGHT

COMSUBREFITRAGRU LA MADDALENA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 12147

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MOPS, IT, PBOR

SUBJECT: NPW OPERATIONS AT LA MADDALENA

REFS: A. STATE 185500

B. ROME 9745

C. ROME 9746

1. EMBASSY FEARS THAT WHILE LOGIC OF US CASE IS SOUND, THE
REITERATION OF EVIDENCE PRESENTED EARLIER, IN RESPONSE TO GOI
REQUEST BASED ON REFTTEL A'S INSTRUCTIONS, MIGHT WELL BE COUNTER-
PRODUCTIVE, AS MFA WOULD VIEW OUR RESPONSE WITH THIS DATED
MATERIAL AS A VERY NEGATIVE RESPONSE. OUR PROBLEM IS TO BE AS
POSITIVE AS POSSIBLE IN HELPING MFA AND MOD CONTAIN POLITICALLY
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INSPIRED ATTACKS ON US PRESENCE IN LA MADDALENA.

2. LOGIC OF PARAS 2 AND 3 OF REFTEL A IS PERSUASIVE TO EMBASSY BUT WOULD BE MORE ACCEPTABLE TO MFA IF IT COULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY: A) XEROX COPIES OF REFERENCES IN ANNUAL REPORT BIBLIOGRAPHIES AND MOST CURRENT SCHOLARLY MATERIAL OF A KIND; B) PROMISE TO PROVIDE GOI WITH XEROX COPIES OF CURRENT QUARTERLY REPORTS ON LA MADDALENA AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE (EMBASSY HAS TROUBLE SYMPATHIZING WITH OPINION THAT THIS WOULD SET DANGEROUS PRECEDENT OR BE EXPENSIVE) AND C) THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED TO OFFER BRIEFING SERVICES OF COMSUBGRU EIGHT TO MINISTRY OF HEALTH. AS DA RIN STATED IN REFTEL C, SHEER VOLUME WOULD EVEN BE USEFUL.

3. IF WE COULD PROVIDE THEM WITH ABOVE WHILE AT SAME TIME STRESSING POINTS OF PARAS 2 AND 3 OF REFTEL A, WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO TURN OFF THIS PROBLEM FOR TIME BEING.

4. HOWEVER, WHILE WE SYMPATHIZE WITH THE BELIEF THAT POLLUTION PROBLEM WAS QUOTE RESOLVED END QUOTE AND THAT IT IS IN NO ONE'S INTEREST TO REOPEN IT; THE PROBLEM, IN FACT, IS AND WILL BE REOPENED EVERY TIME THERE IS A MAJOR ARTICLE IN PRESS ON LA MADDALENA OR RELATED MATTERS. IN FACT, THE WHOLE ISSUE OF US MILITARY PRESENCE IN ITALY HAS BEEN RAISED TO A MUCH HIGHER LEVEL OF POLITICAL CONTROVERSY SINCE THE LA MADDALENA AFFAIR FIRST AROSE IN THIS CONTEXT; MOREOVER, THE CYPRUS CRISIS HAS COMPLICATED MATTERS EVEN FURTHER.

5. IN SUM, TO HELP MFA AND MOD KEEP MINISTRY OF HEALTH IN LINE, IT IS EMBASSY'S FIRM BELIEF WE SHOULD BE AS FORTHCOMING AND POSITIVE AS POSSIBLE. THEREFORE, EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT THE ADDITIONAL MATERIAL SUGGESTED IN PARA 2 AS POINTS A, B, AND C ABOVE, BE PROVIDED ASAP. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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